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000 an introductory account of the general industrial expansion of the decade and taking up each item in succession.

654 473 With a view to devote increasing attention to the development of the forest, mineral and industrial resources of the State a new portfolio of Commerce and Industries was provided in the Constitution which came into force during the Samvat year 1979 (1922 A. D.) resulting in the creation of a new Department of Industries under an expert. The department when doing preliminary survey work busied itself with the problem of examining possibilities for the establishment of new industries but for want of a definite industrial policy much progress could not be made especially when the period was one of all round trade slump and falling prices and when necessary capital for outlay in big ventures was not readily forthcoming. Still with all these handicaps the industrial utility of the various minor forest products was examined and experimented upon as also the economic value of the various minerals was established by tests in the Government Industrial Laboratory and by certain manufacturing firms of England. During the short period of its existence the department has succeeded in spreading an industrial atmosphere in the State and creating a desire in the people to take to industrial pursuits. Creation of industrial reserve, organization and holding of the State Exhibition, provision for registeration of Joint Stock Companies, Patents and Designs, formation of a Civil Supplies Department have all contributed materially towards industrial advancement. Below is recorded a list of some of the important industries established during the decade under review and in these operations are employed on a fairly large scale:—

1. Match Factory.
2. Ice "
3. Tanneries. "
4. Sawmills Factory.
5. Fruit Preserving Works.
6. Soap Manufactures.
7. Tent Factory.
8. Oil Factories.
9. Furniture Factories.
10. Willow Works.
11. Silk Weaving Factories.
12. Carpet Factories.

654 The above shows the fresh industrial ventures of the decade but Kashmir handicrafts and cottage industries too numerous to mention have side by side made a satisfactory all round progress which is evidenced by the birth of new manufacturing firms of carpets, pattoos, lois, silks, shawls, embroideries, papier machie works, silver-ware and wood-carving, etc. Commercial value of the following raw materials have further been investigated and there is an early possibility of these products being exploited for commercial purposes through the establishment of new industries in the State :—

1. Jute Manufactures.
2. Ink "
3. Wine "
4. Rose Distilleries.

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5. Saffron Oil.
6. Extraction of Jasmin, Narcissus and Lilac essences.
7. Shisham Oil (Sweet).
8. Cassia preparation.
9. Paints and Varnishes.
10. Honey Purification.
11. Black board chalk Manufacture.
12. Starch Manufacture.

The famous Silk Industry of the State continued its function although its [288]
some experienced a considerable fall in the latter half of the decade due to
extraordinary fall in the price of the silk.

Cottage Industries.—A peripatetic demonstration party employed by 472
Government has done useful work by introducing improved fly-shuttle looms 654
of weaving new patterns and designs to the village weavers. The activities
Government, for the improvement and welfare of the cottage workers is
formerly exhibited by the handsome grant of Rs. 75,000 sanctioned for grant
small loans to the workers. Further proposals for State aid to industries
establishment of an industrial and commercial bank are also under con-
sideration of the Government.

Birthday Exhibition.—The holding of an annual exhibition at Srinagar 543
the industrial and Agricultural products of the State on the auspicious occa-
of His Highness' birthday has served to give a wide publicity to the be-
products arts and manufactures through the large mass of visitors who annually
to the Happy Valley to enjoy the vigorous heat of the plains as also
enjoy the beauties of nature in Kashmir.

The department has prepared a Statistical Atlas for the State and is 473
engaged in bringing out other useful publications such as the Statistical Atlas
Development Map and a Commercial Directory. A clear proof of the
trend of industrial atmosphere will be found in the formation of the following
Joint Stock Companies during the decade while formerly the business on
Joint Stock System was much less known than practised in the State:—

	Share Capital. Rs.
1. The Dogra Commercial and Industrial Company Limited, Jammu	— [illegible]
2. Jammu and Kashmir Commercial Syndicate Limited	— [illegible]
3. The Lalchand Trading Company Limited, Srinagar	— [illegible]
4. Kashmir Textiles Limited, Srinagar	— [illegible]
5. Agra Limited, Srinagar	— [illegible]